

2. *Establishment and Membership.*

The Maryland Commission on the Status of Women is established and consists of 24 members who shall be appointed by the Governor from among persons with a competency in public affairs, women's activities, and broadly representative of all fields of interest of women. The Commission is an independent unit placed under the Secretary of the Department of Employment Security and Social Services.

THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IS ESTABLISHED AND SHALL CONSIST OF 24 MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM AMONG PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN. THE MEMBERSHIP SHALL INCLUDE BOTH MEN AND WOMEN AND SHALL BE BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL FIELDS OF INTEREST OF WOMEN. IT SHALL INCLUDE PERSONS EXPERIENCED IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS, PRIVATE INDUSTRY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES AND SHALL REPRESENT VARIOUS AGE GROUPS AND GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS OF THE STATE. THE COMMISSION IS A UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE THROUGH THE SECRETARY THEREOF.

3. *Appointment and Terms of Membership.*

The Governor shall appoint the members of the Commission for terms of ~~three (3)~~ FOUR (4) years, except that the members first appointed, ~~eight (8)~~ SIX (6) shall be appointed for terms of one (1), two (2), and three (3) years, , AND FOUR (4) YEARS. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments for the balance of the unexpired term. ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION MAY BE REAPPOINTED TO ONE ADDITIONAL TERM AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION. The members shall serve without compensation. The Governor shall designate a chairman and vice-chairman. The chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Commission. The Commission may appoint such offices as it deems necessary.

4. *Purposes.*

The Commission

(1) shall stimulate and encourage throughout the State study and review of the status of women in the State; AND MAY ACT AS A CLEARING HOUSE FOR ALL ACTIVITIES TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT;

(2) shall strengthen home life by directing attention to critical problems confronting women as wives, mothers, homemakers and workers;

(3) shall recommend methods of overcoming discrimination against women in public and private employment, and encourage women to become candidates for public office;